

in America. Our laws are falling behind the cyberthreat to kids, and Congress should pass the Deleting Online Predators Act.

HONORING CORPORAL JEREMIAH COSTELLO

(Mr. HARE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, on June 2, Illinois lost another great American hero when Corporal Jeremiah Costello of Carlinville was killed in Iraq by an IED.

Corporal Costello joined the Army in pursuit of becoming an Illinois state trooper, leaving his 4-year-old daughter in the care of his mother and stepfather. Like the 21,000 single parents serving in Iraq, Corporal Costello struggled with being away from his daughter, yet he bravely fought with courage.

Corporal Costello was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. He is remembered as a cheerful young man with a knack for improving people's moods and surprising loved ones with gifts.

As Father's Day approaches, I ask my colleagues to remember Corporal Costello and his 4-year-old daughter, Lilly, and the approximately 2,000 children who have lost a parent in the Armed Forces over the last 5 years.

On behalf of the 17th Congressional District of Illinois, I extend my thoughts and prayers to the Costello family. Corporal Costello's service to his country will not be forgotten, and a grateful Nation stands humble. Thank you, Corporal Costello.

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LET THE GAMESMANSHIP STOP

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, we have had a wonderful, vigorous and robust debate on the floor of this House for the past couple of days. It has dealt with earmarks and transparency in those earmarks.

I think it is noteworthy that the American people have spoken out, and I thank them for the support that they have shown us and their participation with us in this debate. And I thank them for their awareness of the fact that this is the people's House, that how we spend their tax money is very important. They deserve to know how we're going to spend that on the front end before we vote, and they do expect the reforms that we initiated last year on earmarks to be enacted this year.

They also were asking, Where's the fence? They are aware that there is gamesmanship that is taking place. So, to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, I say, Let the gamesmanship

stop. Let's be focused on addressing the security of this Nation. Let's be respectful of one another in word and deed.

MORE PROOF THAT THE PRESIDENT'S TROOP ESCALATION PLAN IS NOT WORKING IN IRAQ

(Mr. WELCH of Vermont asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Mr. Speaker, this week we received more proof from Iraq that the President's troop escalation plan is failing.

A senior U.S. military commander told the Washington Post yesterday that if the President really wanted to stem the violence in Iraq, he would have to send an additional 20,000 U.S. troops there, something that no American would support. But even then, it appears that Iraq will remain incapable of taking full responsibility. Iraq is in a civil war, and our troops, it is not the job of our men and women in uniform to be refereeing a civil war.

Last week, one of our generals put a surveillance out to determine who was laying these IEDs that are killing our troops, and it turned out to be Iraqi security forces, people who work with us by day and then were trying to kill our soldiers by night.

It is time for Democrats and Republicans to work together to bring the President to his senses, to change the direction of the war in Iraq.

WE NEED A STRONG AND SECURE BORDER

(Mrs. DRAKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. DRAKE. Mr. Speaker, it is in the best interests of our country to have a strong and secure border. At a time when it's more important than ever to know who is entering and who is leaving our country, we should not be tying up funding in more bureaucratic red tape.

Our constituents are begging for something to be done, yet the language in the Homeland Security appropriations bill will cripple the ability of the border fence to be built in high-priority areas.

I understand that process and procedure are important, but this Congress has already made its stand on the fence when, in a bipartisan fashion, it supported the Secure Fence Act back in October.

In the words of Sheriff Pendegriff of North Carolina, if your bathtub is overflowing, would you get a mop and bucket, or would you turn off the spigot? Mr. Speaker, it's time to turn off the spigot, close our borders and build the fence.

SILENCE ON PALESTINIAN VIOLENCE

(Mr. EMANUEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, once again, the world has seen another outbreak of Palestinian violence in the Gaza Strip. At least 14 people were killed and 70 were wounded the other day in Gaza City, bringing the total to at least 63 people having been killed.

Fatah and Hamas are tearing the Palestinian area of the Gaza Strip apart in what they call a political rivalry, and the Palestinian people are paying a price for Palestinian violence. Governments from around the world and the Arab world have said nothing about this violence, while Palestinians kill each other.

I just want you to think for a second, if this was a result of Israeli-Palestinian hostilities, would the international silence and the silence of the Arab world be this deafening? Does anyone really believe that if this level of violence existed between Israel and Palestinians that the U.N. would not be called into an emergency session to condemn Israel for the violence?

Those same countries that normally attack Israel, I would hope you now find your moral voice and your moral conscience with the attack and senseless violence that is leaving the Palestinian people so hopeless.

WE ARE NOW ALL FLAKES

(Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, the debate over the last 2 days has been described in many different ways. I would like to describe it as a tribute to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE).

I have referred to him in the press as Don Quixote with couth, referring to the fact that in the past he has stood there as a solitary figure trying to bring sense to this place when we're dealing with earmarks.

President Nixon once said looking at certain figures about population that we are all now Malthusian. He was proven wrong.

I think I can say without contradiction, after the debate on the floor and resolution of the dispute we've had and the seriousness with which we're about now to undertake the issue of earmarks, we are now all Flakes.

REPUBLICANS ARE MAKING A MOCKERY OF THE HOUSE FLOOR, DELAYING ACTION ON POPULAR MEASURES

(Mr. YARMUTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, it appears that the House Republicans are